

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 HONG K 12934 300058Z

13

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 NIC-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01 SAM-01 IO-10 /067 W

----- 035068

R 290740Z NOV 74

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3026

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 12934

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CH

SUBJECT: EDITORIAL REASSERTS THE MOVEMENT STILL ON

SUMMARY. USING A PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL, THE REGIME HAS GIVEN A CAUTIONARY WARNING AGAINST THE TREND TOWARD THINKING THAT THE POLITICAL MOVEMENT IS OVER. HOWEVER, THE EDITORIAL GIVES NO NEW INSTRUCTIONS AND IT APPEARS THAT THE REGIME IS MARKING TIME WITHOUT ENOUGH OF A CONSENSUS TO SET A CLEARCUT LINE. END SUMMARY.

1. THE NOVEMBER 28 PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL, THE FIRST EXCLUSIVELY DEVOTED TO THE POLITICAL MOVEMENT IN FIVE MONTHS, IS RESTRAINED AND ADDRESSED TO THE CONFUSION CREATED BY CONTRADICTORY SIGNALS FROM THE CENTER. AT THE OUTSET THE EDITORIAL ADDRESSES CURRENT OPINION BY RHETORICALLY ASKING IF THE MOVEMENT IS OVER AND STATING EMPHATICALLY THAT IT IS NOT. IMPLICITLY ACKNOWLEDGING THE CONTRADICTORY EFFECT OF CENTRAL INSTRUCTIONS, THE EDITORIAL COUNTER-ASSERTS THAT " THE IMPORTANT INGREDIENT OF THE SUCCESSIVE DIRECTIVES FROM CHAIRMAN MAO AND THE PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE."

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 HONG K 12934 300058Z

THE EDITORIAL WARNS OF "COMPLACENCY AND SLACKNESS" WITH REGARD

TO THE MOVEMENT.

2. ALTHOUGH NOT STATED, THE EDITORIAL AIMS AT COUNTERING THE IMPRESSION CONVEYED BY THE OCTOBER 1 EDITORIAL THAT MASS INVESTIGATION ACTIVITY IS OVER AND THE MOVEMENT " IS WELL-NIGH COMPLETED." HINTING THAT THE EARLIER PRONOUNCEMENT IS MISINTERPRETED TO MEAN AN END TO CRITICIZING LEADERS AND POLICIES, THE EDITORIAL DECLARES THAT "WE MUST NEVER GIVE UP THE WEAPON OF CRITICISM." THIS, HOWEVER, IS HARDLY A CALL TO VIGOROUS ACTION, AND THE SUBJECT IS DROPPED WITHOUT ELABORATION. ONE PARAGRAPH LATER, IN FACT, THE EDITORIAL REVERSES GROUND AND REITERATES THE CALL FOR FOCUSING AT THIS TIME ON STUDY, WHICH THE OCTOBER EDITORIAL HAD SUGGESTED AS THE EMERGING PHASE. THE EDITORIAL HEWS TO THE CURRENT DUAL-EMPHASIS ON REVOLUTION AND PRODUCTION.

3. THE EDITORIAL ENDS BY LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT YEAR: "LET US WELCOME THE COMING YEAR 1975 WITH NEW ACHIEVEMENTS IN REVOLUTION AND PRODUCTION." THIS PASSES UP AN OPPORTUNITY TO SURFACE CURRENT PREPARATIONS FOR CONVENING THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS, AND THE NUANCE HERE COULD BE THAT THE CONGRESS IS OFF UNTIL NEXT YEAR. BROADLY THE HINT IS THAT PERHAPS NEXT YEAR THE LINE WILL BE STRAIGHTENED OUT AND THINGS WILL BE BETTER.

4. COMMENT. FROM THE SUBSTANCE AND TONE OF THE EDITORIAL THE REGIME IS MARKING TIME, PROBABLY BECAUSE THERE IS NOT A CONSENSUS OR A STRONG ENOUGH ONE TO PERMIT THE REGIME AT THIS TIME TO SET OUT A CLEARER LINE. AT THE SAME TIME, IT IS APPARENT FROM THE EDITORIAL'S THEME THAT THE TREND OF THOUGHT WHICH NEGATES THE MOVEMENT AND WRITES IT OFF HAS GONE TOO FAR AND REQUIRES A CAUTIONARY WARNING. THE REGIME HAS NOT DECIDED, OR IS NOT PREPARED TO HAVE THE COUNTRY BELIEVE, THAT THE MOVEMENT HAS RUN ITS COURSE. CROSS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, POLITICAL LEADERS, SOCIAL CHANGE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974HONGK12934
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740347-0925
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974114/aaaaacpv.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUL 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <26 DEC 2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EDITORIAL REASSERTS THE MOVEMENT STILL ON SUMMARY. USING A PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL, THE REGIME HAS GIVEN
TAGS: PINT, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005